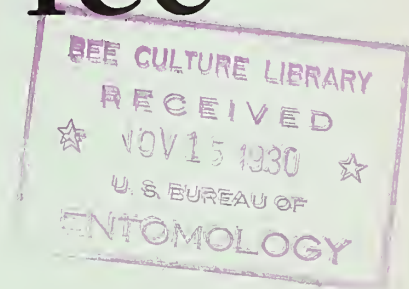


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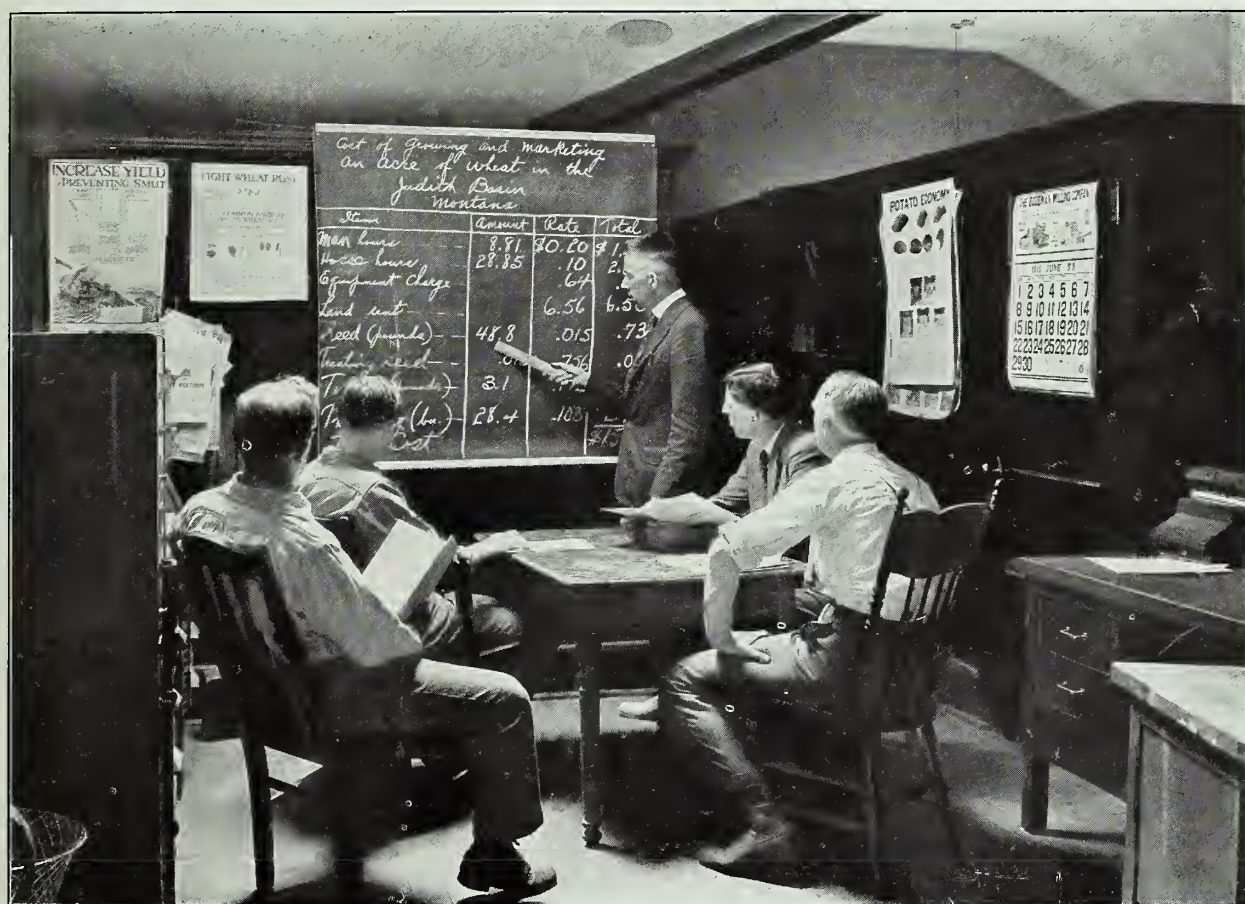
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Extension Service Review



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CHECKING UP ON FARM BUSINESS OPERATIONS

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Extension Service Review

VOL. 1

WASHINGTON, D. C., NOVEMBER, 1930

NO. 7

The Home Demonstration Program and Drought Relief

CONNIE J. BONSLAGEL, State Home Demonstration Agent of Arkansas

In their recently published book, *The Agricultural Extension System of the United States*, Dr. C. B. Smith and Mr. M. C. Wilson have devoted a chapter to the extension system in war or regional disaster. In it they relate the efficiency of the extension agents in carrying out food-production and food-conservation policies and practices demanded of the World War period. Again when the floods destroyed the crops and farm homes, we are reminded, "Extension agents were on the spot to render without a moment's delay the kind of help needed." Rehabilitation and preventive and curative nutrition work were the major activities of the home demonstration agents at this critical time, the nutrition work including the home production as well as the wise selection of foods.

Arkansas and neighboring States are again facing an emergency which may well be classed as a regional disaster. Our people are marooned in their farm homes, having no feed for their livestock and little or no food for their families, and with winter just ahead. Extension agents have again shown their expertness in adopting and adjusting a previously made program to meet an emergency, shifting emphasis from those phases of agricultural development which can wait to those matters which, because of the drought disaster, become urgent. This emergency has served to spot-light the "Live-at-home" program which has been in progress in Arkansas for six or more years.

Emergency Progress

Home demonstration agents were not made members of the drought-relief committees except in a few counties. They have, however, adopted a state-wide emergency program of immediate relief which has put the people to work helping themselves. This program includes cooperation with the community and with the Red Cross in an intensified fall garden campaign, distributing garden seed, and giving instructions in fall gardening. It so happens that the fall garden

constituted one of the major projects of the State home demonstration program as originally planned. Redoubled efforts are being made to excite interest in the State fair fall vegetable show in which \$125 in cash prizes is offered to the county home demonstration councils sponsoring the show.

Meat canning, purely an emergency measure at this season, since in normal years meat canning, like hog killing and meat curing, is altogether a cold-weather project on the farm, is the outstanding relief activity of the home demonstration program. Since the middle of August when the campaign was initiated beefs and cull chickens have been canned daily in most of the counties of the State. The canning of such animals as are in condition to be slaughtered serves a threefold purpose; it puts a winter's supply of fresh meat on the pantry shelves, and so greatly heartens the head of the house whose spirits are naturally low, gives him a new confidence for the fight he is facing; it relieves him of the problem of feeding the animals or the necessity of selling at the present distressingly low price offered for livestock; and it enables the farmer to help himself toward a solution of his problem.

Cooperation Attained

The work has met with instant cooperation from town people as well as from farm folks. In most counties meat-canning centers have been set up in the towns where cold-storage facilities and screened workrooms are available, since thorough chilling and meticulous attention to sanitation details are of paramount importance when meat canning is done in warm weather. In Lonoke County, centers are established and the work is being done in the four larger towns and at the State prison farm; in Bradley County a local store is chilling the meat free of cost and the Amercian Legion hut has become a canning center; the county community house in Lincoln County is now a temporary canning factory; in Jefferson County the boys' industrial school is the center with the boys doing the work on shares, super-

vised by a local leader from one of the home demonstration clubs; in Drew similar arrangements have been made with the Baptist orphanage; in Calhoun County the three banks have bought pressure cookers which they lend to the various community leaders; in Greene County the local cannery has thrown its doors open to all farm folks who wish to can a beef, more than 100 people attending the first demonstration and many learning the process. Farm women, trained in meat canning in former years, are conducting these meat-canning bees, leaving the home demonstration agent more or less free to organize the work in the more remote communities. These are but a few instances of the fine backing the work is receiving.

Canning as One Solution

A state-wide culling campaign has been under way during the summer, and hundreds of the cull chickens have been canned, one woman having placed 98 quarts of canned chicken on her pantry shelves. The canning of one calf for which the owner could have received only \$10 on the market placed 362 cans of roast, steak, hash, chili, and soup stock in the pantry for the winter meals. Another 240-pound beef was canned in half a day by a family that estimates its winter supply of meat ready for the table at \$55, a conservative estimate. This meat supply in many homes is supplemented by a store of canned vegetables and fruits which were put up from early spring gardens according to the extension service canning budget. Following the slight rains, thousands of farmers have planted turnips and other greens. A large supply of these will be canned before the winter cold sets in.

So, again, when a disaster faces our people, the county extension agents are "on the spot" to give without a moment's delay relief where relief is most needed. Counting the assistant agents who have consented to a temporary transfer to 2-county positions, there are 64 white agents and 8 negro agents carrying on the emergency drought-relief program.

County Forestry Program

The effective results obtained from the use of intelligent local leadership in the development of an extension program are emphasized by J. A. Cope, extension forester of the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University in a discussion of New York's extension forestry program.

The first step has been the appointment of a farm bureau forestry committee, made up of farmers who have evidenced constructive interest in this project. There are now such committees functioning in all counties of the State where forestry is a project of importance. In some cases these committees do scarcely more than meet once or twice a year to sanction the work the county agent and the project leader in forestry have agreed on and are carrying out.

In several counties a happy combination of aggressive committeemen and definite assignment of task has resulted in progressive accomplishment. The scope of the farm bureau's forestry committee has been widened to take in all agencies in the county interested in the furtherance of forestry. From a simple farm bureau forestry committee has developed a forestry council made up of representatives of the local luncheon clubs, subordinate and Pomona granges, dairymen's league locals, sportsmen's clubs, parent-teacher associations, and schools. In five counties of the State these councils have been organized and are carrying on a range of activities that is as wide as the field of forestry itself. Picking at random from the plan of work as set forth at their annual meetings, we find the councils charging themselves with such projects as these: (1) Financing a 4-H forestry club boy to take in the annual Adirondack forestry tour; (2) using their influence and backing to get the board of supervisors to establish county forests; (3) conducting a survey of local wood-using industries, in order that their members may have at first hand, information in regard to the best market for their wood-lot products; (4) organizing a campaign for county-wide wood-lot improvement work; (5) planning and conducting a local forestry tour throughout the county; (6) setting up a forestry exhibit at the county fair; (7) conducting essay contests among the school children of the county on some phase of forestry.

First Forestry Council

Chautauqua County, in southwestern New York, is an interesting example of the rapid development of a county-wide forestry extension program sponsored by

a forestry council. This was the first county in the State to form a forestry council, back in 1927. The program of forestry extension work which the council mapped out was ambitious, and the demands for help from council members along forestry lines was so great that a heavy burden was placed on the time and ability of the executive committee. Having no public funds to pay for the specialist help needed in carrying on the program, the council members helped to finance for a year the employment of a forester for the council. At the end of the year's work the value of an extension forestry specialist to the county was so apparent to the board of supervisors that they decided to carry this position on the regular county pay rolls.

Mr. J. E. Davis, now assistant extension forester of New York State, was employed as county extension forester. The position is rather unique in the records of forestry extension work in the United States. It is the first, and, so far as is known, the only position of its kind. There are a considerable number of county foresters employed administratively in connection with county forests and parks. This position, as the title implies, carries with it no administrative duties, but is entirely educational. The county extension forester's work is performed under the direction of the executive committee of the forestry council. In other words, the forestry council functions in forestry extension matters in the county, just as the farm bureau functions in relation to agricultural extension. The county extension forester has his desk in the county agent's office, the closest cooperation thus being assured. The program in forestry extension and agricultural extension are coordinated, and duplication and overlapping are avoided.

The Lewis County Council

In Lewis County, clear across the State in the foothills of the Adirondacks is to be found another forestry council that is functioning effectively without a county extension forester. Extensive areas of farm woodlots and abandoned land needing planting have made forestry an important project in the county agent's annual program. With the backing of a forestry council which includes all the forestry interests in the county, and with help from the State extension forester, the local blister rust control agent and the foreman of the State nursery, located in this county, a sound program is kept constantly before the landowners of the

county. The "Tree Planters' Dinner," which ushers in the spring planting season, and the county forestry tour in the early fall have come to be outstanding events in the county calendar. A county that through a combination of public and private interests plants better than half a million trees each year, that fosters and carries out a well-balanced program in forestry for farm boys and girls through the 4-H club organization, and that has established demonstrations of improved woodlot practices in every township may well be said to be forest-minded. On this achievement the forestry council can and does pride itself.

In Jefferson County a still different plan is being tried, and so far has worked out successfully though it has been underway only since last spring. The farm bureau did not feel it had the funds to justify a full-time assistant county agent on strictly agricultural projects. The county board of supervisors, through their forestry committee, was embarking on a program of county-owned forests. They desired expert assistance and advice in establishing these forests and were willing to pay for it. To provide this help would not, for the next five years at least, occupy the full-time of a forester. After a conference between the forestry committee of the board of supervisors and the executive committee of the farm bureau it was decided to employ a graduate forester. He was given the title of assistant county agent. His duties combine the supervision of planting on county forests, the educational work in forestry under the forestry council, and certain routine work for the farm bureau.

The forester has an opportunity to combine in an effective way administrative and educational duties. There is no conflict because he is responsible to separate groups for the different line of work and his salary and time are allocated proportionately.

"By writing narratives on how they would furnish a home, the 13 women attending the Summerfield home demonstration club meeting exchanged some valuable ideas which might have been missed had the class been conducted differently," says Pearl LeFevre, home demonstration agent in Claiborne Parish, La. First Miss LeFevre gave instructions on rural home furnishings, and after a general discussion each one wrote her paper. Miss LeFevre feels that this meeting probably will result in increasing the number of entries in the room-improvement contest which is being sponsored by the Claiborne home demonstration council.

The Farm Board Makes Progress

JAMES C. STONE, Vice Chairman, Federal Farm Board

The agricultural marketing act provides aid to farmers in organizing for collective action to control the production and marketing of their crops. The avowed purpose is to place the industry of agriculture on a basis of economic equality with other industries through the adoption of sound business principles that those in other lines have found essential to success.

The law commits the Government definitely to the principle of producer cooperation in marketing agricultural commodities. Furthermore, it proposes to farmers that they adjust the production of their crops and livestock as nearly as possible to the potential buying demand, the theory being that it is much better to prevent a burdensome surplus than to grow one and then try to find some way to dispose of it without the usual depressing effect on the market.

The Federal Farm Board, intrusted with the administration of this law, has now been at work about 15 months. In that time we have centered our efforts on two phases of the task assigned us by Congress. First, we have assisted the existing cooperatives to unify their marketing activities along commodity lines and to extend their services to other farmers who are willing to work with their neighbors. Second, in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, State colleges of agriculture, and Federal and State extension services, we have laid before farmers the facts relative to overproduction of certain commodities and suggested that acreage be adjusted with a view to producing crops more nearly in line with market requirements.

Cooperatives Assisted

Cooperatives handling seven different commodities have been assisted by the farm board in setting up national cooperative sales agencies for the unified merchandising of those commodities. These include the Farmers National Grain Corporation, National Wool Marketing Corporation, American Cotton Cooperative Association, National Livestock Marketing Association, National Bean Marketing Association, National Pecan Marketing Association, and National Beet Growers Association.

These national agencies are made up of State, regional, and local cooperative associations. They are being formed to merchandise the products of their member associations to the best advantage of the grower. Through elimination of

waste in distribution and lessening of speculation it is expected their operations will result in a stability of prices that should be beneficial to consumer as well as to producer. These organizations are farmer-owned and farmer-controlled. They are in no sense Government agencies or agencies of the Federal Farm Board. Their services are available to every farmer who is willing to cooperate with his neighbors.

Preliminary reports on 1930 operations show that substantial progress is being made by the national cooperative agencies.



James C. Stone, vice chairman, Federal Farm Board

The National Wool Marketing Corporation has handled for its member associations approximately 125,000,000 pounds of this year's wool and mohair clip, or something more than 35 per cent of the total. Last year barely 10 per cent was marketed cooperatively.

Deliveries of cotton are far in excess of those at this time a year ago. The American Cotton Cooperative Association has received reports from member State associations indicating that they will handle 3,000,000 bales or more, compared to about 1,200,000 bales last year.

Nearly a third of the hard winter wheat moving into the Kansas City terminal was marketed by the Farmers National Grain Corporation, whose officials estimate that at least 200,000,000 bushels, or about one-fourth of the total wheat crop this year, will be marketed under its supervision.

The raisin-grape and fresh-grape producers of California have been assisted by the farm board in working out an industry cooperative program for the removal of surplus grapes and raisins. The cost of such removal is underwritten by the industry and its purpose is to protect the market for raisins and fresh grapes.

Cooperatives handling dairy products, poultry and eggs, tobacco, apples, potatoes, rice, and fruits and vegetables are being assisted by the farm board in broadening their marketing activities, looking to the eventual development of central sales programs for those commodities.

Financial Assistance Rendered

Financial assistance has been extended by the farm board to cooperatives handling these commodities: Apples, beans, citrus fruits, cotton, dairy products, dried fruits, figs, grain, grass seed, honey, livestock, pecans, poultry and eggs, grapes and raisins, rice, sour cherries, tobacco, wheat, and wool and mohair.

In cooperation with the State agricultural colleges and extension services of the Northeastern States the farm board is making a survey of cooperative associations and farm marketing problems in those States with a view to recommending a program of expansion that will place farmers of that area in position to avail themselves of all the benefits of the agricultural marketing act.

Among the duties of the farm board is that of designating farm products or groups of farm products with similar marketing methods as agricultural commodities. Thus far 12 have been so designated, as follows: (1) Cotton; (2) dairy products, including fluid milk, cream, cheese, condensed milk, butter, ice cream, evaporated milk, whole and skim milk powder; (3) grains, including rye, corn, oats, barley, flax, grain sorghums, and buckwheat; (4) rice; (5) livestock; (6) wool and mohair; (7) tobacco; (8) poultry and eggs; (9) seeds, including alfalfa, clover, timothy, redtop and other field seeds; (10) potatoes; (11) wheat; (12) sugar beets and sugarcane.

On invitation of the farm board, cooperatives representative of the producers of six commodities, in accordance with the provisions of the law, have established advisory commodity committees, as follows: Dairy products, wool and mohair, wheat, cotton, livestock, and sugar beets and sugarcane.

The farm board has recommended to wheat growers of this country that they gradually reduce their acreage until production is brought down to a domestic basis or nearly so. This has been done

because all the facts collected by the Department of Agriculture and the board on the world wheat outlook indicate that the average grower can not hope in the next few years to get a profitable return on the world market. Cotton growers have been advised to reduce their acreage somewhat and to improve the quality of their crops as steps necessary in putting their industry on a sound basis. The board sounded a warning to tobacco growers last spring that their reported intentions to increase acreage by 15 per cent would probably result in overproduction and consequent low prices.

In the past our farmers have been giving entirely too little attention at planting and breeding time to the prospective consumer demand. For the most part, warnings by the Department of Agriculture against overproduction have gone unheeded.

Overproduction Warnings

An instance of how producers ignored repeated warnings against overproduction and now are suffering because of it is furnished by the sheep industry. In the summer of 1927 sheep raisers were advised by the Department of Agriculture of an impending surplus unless the expansion of their herds was slowed down. There was no response and the warning was repeated in 1928 with a like result. Still a third warning was given in 1929. A short crop last year helped to defer the adverse effect of a surplus until fall, when lamb prices in Chicago, which had ranged from \$13 to \$16 were carried down to prices of \$10 and lower. The lamb crop this year was 2,000,000 head greater than that of 1929, and this increased production remains to be disposed of before producers can hope for a more profitable price level.

A study of the records of the Department of Agriculture shows that the aggregate return for a small or medium sized crop is frequently larger than for one greatly in excess of the normal market requirements.

In 1928 farmers produced 49,000,000 head of hogs, 9,000,000 head more than the crop of 1926, and received \$140,000,000 less than for the smaller crop.

Beef cattle production in 1929 was the smallest in the past five years and brought the growers the most money. Slaughter under Federal inspection was 7,940,000,000 pounds, for which the producer received \$968,000,000. In 1926 it was 9,814,000,000 pounds and the producer got only \$943,000,000, or \$25,000,000 less for a 25 per cent greater production.

The corn crop of 2,300,000,000 bushels in 1924 had a farm value of \$300,000,000 more than one of 600,000,000 bushels larger in 1925.

The record of returns for potato crops over a period of years shows that the growers get more for a crop under 400,000,000 bushels than they do for one in excess of that quantity. The smallest potato crop in the past six years was 321,000,030 bushels, in 1925, and the bumper crop, in 1928, was 463,000,000 bushels. The crop of 142,000,000 bushels more showed a return to the farmer of \$242,000,000 less.

The smallest cotton crop of the past 10 years was that of 1923, being only 10,140,000 bales. The biggest was in 1926, amounting to 17,977,000 bales. The cotton farmers got \$589,000,000 more for their crop in 1923 than they did in 1926 when they had 7,837,000 more bales of cotton.

Organization, just as in the case of dealing effectively with marketing problems, seems to us to be necessary before farmers will be in position to adjust production to market requirements and do the job on an equitable basis.

Regional Outlook Conferences

The new plan to hold regional outlook conferences in the early fall to discuss the situation with various commodities that are covered in fall extension work has been put into effect. The first of these conferences was held in Washington for representatives of the Appalachian States on September 18 to 20. Nine States were represented by 26 men in addition to a large number of members of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the Extension Service staffs in Washington. The conference opened with a general discussion of objectives and procedure in outlook work and a review of general economic conditions. Various commodities were then taken up by committees and an hour or so of discussion devoted to each. These discussions covered poultry, feed supplies, potatoes, feeder cattle, tobacco, truck crops, sheep, and dairying. Following the commodity discussions, methods of presenting outlook work and conducting meetings were considered.

No formal report was written for the region, but the State representatives took the results of the conference back to their respective States to be used as a basis of outlook work until the time of the annual outlook conference in January.

The second of the regional conferences was held at the Iowa Agricultural College at Ames September 25 to 27 with 13 States represented by two or more extension workers. The conference included

about 90 men from the various States and the staff of the college at Ames. The program followed the same plan as that of the conference in Washington, beginning with meetings of the committees followed by detailed discussions of commodities by the conference as a whole. Later, a day was devoted to the discussion of methods of procedure in outlook extension work. No formal report was prepared for the region. Extension directors of five States, representatives of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Extension Service, and the Federal Farm Board participated.

An outstanding fact apparent in the subject-matter discussions of the conference was that extension economists in this area are devoting much attention to the preparation of outlook information for extension uses. Another quite evident fact was that outlook work in the Corn Belt States has passed the stage of preparing reports or holding meetings that do not include a consideration of the economic background and local adaptation as well as the outlook.

Considerable attention was given to the ways and means of applying outlook information to the individual farm business. The use of individual farm organization material for this purpose, supported by a careful analysis and interpretation of what constituted successful types and systems of farming within the area, was emphasized.

Regional and county adjustment or economic conferences were considered as a means of projecting outlook information. They were regarded as another effective means of helping farmers make more money. That local farm-management facts are essential to the long-time success of the economic conference was pointed out.

Emphasis was placed upon the training and use of leaders. With this thought in mind, ways and means for best enabling subject-matter specialists, county agents, and local community leaders to obtain and make use of outlook information were discussed. In the preparation of economic information for the use of leaders, emphasis was given to the importance of simplicity, brevity, and timeliness in the preparation of such information.

The results of the conference suggested the advisability of a close cooperation of the extension economists working in this area in the development of programs during the next few years, to enable the most effective projection and use of outlook and related information. Unlike most lines of extension subject matter, economic problems do not stop at State lines. For that reason it is evident that the regional aspects of these economic programs be worked out jointly by these workers.

Sussex County Health Survey and Outlook

From Sussex County comes a most interesting story of the health study made by the extension service of the University of Delaware under the direction of Miss Pearl MacDonald, nutrition specialist.

We have long been familiar with agricultural surveys and their outlook which gave for the year the probable grain and livestock production; but a survey of the homes and people and of their health outlook is something new.

In this age of health instruction we are looking at our children with a very different understanding. The examination of school children in Sussex County by the county health doctor revealed some very significant facts, namely, that about 35 per cent of the children suffer from faulty nutrition, which means that they do not have enough food of the right kind to build and repair their bodies; that about 40 per cent suffer from defective tonsils; and nearly 50 per cent have defective teeth with tartar as well as actual decay.

Dentists of the county are agreed that the condition of the teeth is, to a large extent, due to lack of milk, fruits, and vegetables and to an excess of sweets. This condition exists because parents do not understand the problem of tooth building.

Results Shown by Score Card

A health-habits score card on which more than 2,800 children reported their food habits, showed that—

Less than one-fourth of the children have more than a pint of milk each day.

Less than one-half have two vegetables besides potatoes each day.

Only about one-seventh have leafy vegetables.

About one-half eat sweets between meals.

Seventy-five per cent of the children had a total score of 70 or below, while only about 5 per cent had a score of 90 or above.

It should be added that this food-habits score is based on a high standard providing an abundance of mineral substances and vitamins.

In a study among the mothers there were found failure to correct physical defects in the children; a large number of children carrying cold lunches to school; too many suffering from constipation, headaches, and colds; the planning of meals a real difficulty; and very

few families planting a wide variety of vegetables or planting surplus to provide for canning and storing for winter use. Very few planned definitely for leafy vegetables in the diet.

To bring the results of these studies to the attention of the people of the county, a conference was held with the citizens, giving them the facts. Lack of vegetables was the difficulty that seemed most easily and quickly righted. The conference was held at the beginning of the growing season. It was planned to work through four committees—a general health committee, a vegetable supply committee, a garden committee, and an economics of the garden committee.

Work of Committees

In brief, the work of the committees was to suggest that the county extension agents plan demonstration gardens; to encourage everyone to have a home garden, stating that one-fourth to one-half acre was needed by the average farm family for a year's supply of vegetables, and to urge the planting and use of a variety of vegetables, especially the leafy sorts, such as spinach, chard, kale, cabbage, and turnip and beet tops.

Those who had the demonstration gardens planted several varieties of vegetables new to them and became acquainted with them. This was a poor garden year because of the drought, yet some of the demonstrators had vegetables to can for winter use. However, the garden tours planned as a part of the demonstration had to be given up.

Canning demonstrations were given and methods of storing were discussed. The women are gradually becoming acquainted with the canning and storing budget idea. As a further development, food demonstrations on the best type of preparing and using vegetables are being given. These will be followed by a menu contest.

Although the results in dollars and cents have not been great this year, the studies have been much worth while because of the interest aroused and the groundwork laid for further work. Plans have been formulated for carrying on such work with mothers of preschool children as the correlation of physical defects and establishing good food and health habits, and some have begun 4-H clubs in the county.

Although one of the largest industries in the world, the wholesale value of all the motor vehicle production in the United States is not as great as the farm value of the dairy products of this country.

Sabbatic Leave for Extension Workers

On September 30 Dr. C. W. Warburton, director of extension work, issued a letter to all extension directors regarding sabbatic leave for extension workers that marks a new departure in administrative interpretation of the Smith-Lever and Capper-Ketcham funds. In the past it has been contrary to department policies to employ these funds for sabbatic leave periods of extension workers, even though these periods were used for professional improvement. Now the department is ready and willing to reopen this question and to consider with each State individual cases on their merits, as a means of developing efficiency and morale in the extension force.

It seems desirable that periods for further study and personal improvement should be extended, especially to county extension agents who may be isolated from sources of research information.

Reasons for Leave

As a basis for consideration of the use of cooperative extension funds for sabbatic privileges, the department suggests that each case be made an individual project, mutually agreed upon by the department and the college concerned. This project should show the name of the individual desiring leave, length of time in the extension service of the State, the studies to be pursued or the investigations to be made, the institution to be attended, period of leave, rate of compensation and source of funds involved, and the likelihood of the one taking sabbatic leave returning to the State extension service following such leave. Leave for travel, recreation, working at home on the farm, or employment in another institution would not be regarded by the department as proper reason for expenditure of extension funds of Federal origin for sabbatic leave.

The communication of Director Warburton calls attention to the fact that sabbatic leave should not be considered a right of the recipient but rather as a privilege which the college may grant.

This suggestion of the department regarding sabbatic leave is not at all mandatory and should only be considered as permissive so far as the department is concerned. It is not intended in any way to interfere with the present policies of any of the agricultural colleges.

Some of the most popular publications issued in the State of Georgia last year were on vegetable gardening, the spraying calendar, canning fruits and vegetables, and the farm poultry house.

Club Work in Utah

Four-H club work in Utah this year has given evidence of the helpful training obtained by local leaders in the Utah State 4-H Leader Training School held at Logan in March, under the direction of D. P. Murray, State club leader.

The primary purpose of the training school was to train leaders in methods of organizing and conducting boys' and girls' 4-H clubs, and the entire course was developed with that objective in view. These leaders are not only acting as supervisors of clubs but they now assist in the training of other leaders in their districts.

Project work was given in home management; clothing (four years); foods (four years); crops; dairying; sheep, swine, beef, and poultry management; and forestry. The faculty was comprised of members of the extension service staff.

Desiring to acquaint the leaders with the proper procedure in organizing clubs, making programs, executing plans, and conducting elections and meetings, Wilford D. Porter, extension editor and secretary to the director, was placed on the program of three general sessions to discuss these problems. He first took up the necessity for a well-defined program of work; one that would specifically state the time, place, and what was to be presented at each meeting. Mr. Porter then discussed the proper procedure in conducting by means of motions the business of the club meeting. He showed the method of handling main, privileged, and incidental motions and explained the duties of officers and members of the organizations.

Club Activities

Other features discussed by authorities in their particular line at the general sessions were the securing of club members and how to keep their interest, the best books for club members and leaders to read, the value of recreation, the steps to be taken in planning a 4-H club picnic, club reports and how to obtain them, health, cooperation of county agents and local leaders, new contests among Utah girls' clubs for 1930; the proper procedure in submitting a club exhibit for the State fair, and the value of achievement exercises and how to conduct them. There were talks by club members who won out-of-state trips last year, and a discussion of dramatics.

Recreation classes, in which all enrolled participated, were conducted each afternoon. Also, club members conducted demonstrations and took the different parts in a 4-H club play produced under the direction of a local leader.

William Peterson, director of the Utah Extension Service, in his address before the group, said in part: "A leader is one who is willing to give service. He must be resourceful, live beyond reproach, make good use of his marginal time, see only the good in others and build on worth-while foundations, establish a reputation for honesty, not tolerate procrastination, encourage only the best efforts and express commendation for attainment in others, and see the potentialities in communities and in people. A leader never looks for praise; he looks for accomplishment."

Texas News-Writing Contest

Texas county and home demonstration agents rival their local editors and reporters in writing local news stories of farm and home demonstrations, reports W. H. Darrow, Texas extension editor, not because of superior writing style but because of better interpretation of re-



County agent who won newswriting contest

sults. This is the most interesting conclusion reached by the judges in examining the local news material put on display in county exhibits by 31 county agents and 16 home demonstration agents in the first Texas extension agents' news-writing contest which culminated at the State meeting late in July. The sweepstakes winner in the contest was J. F. Combs, of Jefferson County. J. C. Patterson, of Eastland County, was runner-up.

The contest was divided into six classes, each representative of a desirable type of extension information, and the judging was on the basis of quality, although the exhibits included a large part of the year's output. The six classes included local extension news stories written by agents and by professional writers; community correspondence from community centers to county newspapers in which demonstrations were covered; constructive editorials written by local editors about local extension work; feature stories by agents or professional writers on demonstration work for which

agents were responsible; and story-telling extension pictures.

During the year that this contest was conducted 153 agents were given special assistance by the State editorial office in the development of "noses for news," and short cuts in its preparation and distribution. The wide interest created among agents by the contest as revealed by the careful examination made of the stories on exhibit showed clearly that the preparation of local extension news is considered by Texas agents as an important part of their work.

Cooperative poultry marketing has been found worth while again. Itinerant County Agent E. B. Wright organized the Tri-County Poultry Association in Overton, Clay, and Pickett Counties, Tenn., to cooperatively market poultry. Mr. Wright reports that excellent cooperation was received; for example, 90 per cent of the farmers who brought their own poultry to town patronized one of the cooperative sales. At the end of the first month of activity the price level had risen from 2 to 5 cents per pound, and it is estimated that \$7,900 had been added to the growers' income.

A Clean-Chick Campaign

The "Clean chick—Grow good pullets" campaign project in Maine has approximately 1,000 poultrymen enrolled to carry out five or more of the seven recommended practices, says H. L. Richardson, extension poultry specialist. These practices differ from those in similar projects of other States for several reasons, but for two reasons principally: First, disease control is not the serious problem that it is in many of our sister States, and second, it seemed desirable not to confine ourselves to "clean chicks" wholly but to extend our recommendations to cover those most essential in "growing good pullets" of laying age.

There are two outstanding educational principles which guided us in developing the project. First, the number of practices covered should be kept at the minimum, and second, that the statement of practice recommended should be clear-cut, well defined, positive statements, leaving them subjected to the minimum of errors in interpretation and application. Thus our program is built around the following recommendations:

1. Hatch chicks early (before May 1).
2. Secure chicks from pullorum disease-free stock. Test all breeding stock for pullorum disease (bacillary white diarrhea) and buy chicks or eggs from accredited flocks.

3. Feed chicks from hoppers. Feed all grain and water from hoppers so constructed that droppings are kept out.

4. Brood on wire. Provide brooder house with wire sun porch or the brooder house itself with a floor of ½-inch mesh hardware cloth.

5. Avoid crowding. Have not over 300 chicks under one hover and not over 400 pullets per acre on the range.

6. Range chicks on clean land. Use land where there have been no chicks for one or more years—a 3-year rotation is suggested.

7. Use range shelters. House growing stock on range in open range shelters.

Agencies used in developing this program are those most commonly used in this type of project and include surveys—project leaders, newspapers, radio, meetings, demonstrations, letters with enrollment cards, bulletins, and circulars, essay contests, and exhibits.

A report on results can not be made at this time, as the first year is not yet completed. An indication of the progress being made is the fact that this year 103,000 birds were tested for pullorum disease whereas only 63,000 were tested the previous year.

State Contest in Terracing

New Mexico held its first State 4-H terracing contest last spring at Clovis. About 40 boys in five counties were trained in the terracing work, and the best team in each county competed in the State contest. Each team demonstrated the use of the level and terracer and explained their adjustment and operation. They also told of the advantages to be derived from level farming. While one team was handling the grader another explained the use of the levels and laid out the terraces, thus making it possible to run off the contest in five hours.

Each team was checked for accuracy, but no error in excess of 1 inch in the terrace lines was found. The contestants demonstrated that they understood every angle of terracing and that they were capable of correctly laying out and raising terraces.

The first prize was a \$130 grader and the second prize was a choice supply of beaver milo. The boys who won the grader are planning to use this machine for general terracing work in their county.

During the last several years there has been a decided increase in the demand for blood-tested poultry stock; also, a demand for chicks produced from a known source near home.

Served Missouri 20 Years

After 20 years of service to Missouri agriculture, Arthur John Meyer, director of the extension service of the Missouri College of Agriculture, died at his home in Columbia September 19, aged 52 years. Agricultural history will record the fact that this man had much to do with shaping agricultural extension work in its earliest beginnings and that he was a factor of national importance in the development of this plan of rural education.



A. J. Meyer, late extension director of Missouri

Mr. Meyer was first identified with the Missouri College of Agriculture in 1910 as a student and assistant to Dean F. B. Mumford. For three years he was superintendent of short courses. During this period, in 1912 and 1913, he also had much to do with the establishment of Missouri's first "farm agent" work—two years prior to the national adoption of the plan. It was on August 1, 1912, that the farm forces of Cape Girardeau County were successfully linked with the college and the United States Department of Agriculture and Missouri's first farm agent employed. Pettis County followed on January 1, 1913.

With the passage of the Smith-Lever Act in 1914, Mr. Meyer became director of cooperative extension work for Missouri. This position he held continuously until his death, with the exception of the year 1920, when he was given a year's leave in order that he might serve as executive secretary of the Missouri Farm Bureau Federation, then in its beginnings.

During the World War Mr. Meyer served as a member of the committee on

agriculture and food products and was a special agent of the United States Food Administration.

A. J. Meyer was not only a leader in extension education in his own State, but he was recognized as a leader in the extension field in the Nation as well. He was a member of the committee on extension organization and policy of the extension division of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges from 1926 to 1929, acting as chairman of that committee in 1928-29. As a member of that committee he assisted in the development of the Capper-Ketcham Act, which increased the Federal appropriation for extension work \$1,480,000. Director Meyer worked continuously for the development of increased extension work with farm women and was an advocate of an enlarged extension program in rural sociology and child care and training. His keen mind and deep convictions on extension work with men, women, and boys and girls made him a recognized leader at all national meetings involving extension work.

Extension Work Reviewed

Two members of the Federal Office of Cooperative Extension Work—C. B. Smith, chief, and M. C. Wilson, in charge of extension studies—recently made a substantial contribution to extension literature by the publication of a book entitled "The Agricultural Extension System of the United States." This book will be of interest to every extension worker. It deals with such topics as the partnership between people and Government in extension, the extension system in war or regional disaster, the county agricultural agent, the home demonstration agent, the boys' and girls' club agent, extension specialist, State leaders or supervisors, extension directors, the Federal Extension Service, local leaders, the making of the extension program, county extension organizations, funds for extension, extension policies and relationships, results of extension work, extension research, teaching methods and their relative costs, the psychology of extension teaching, objective, oral, and written methods of extension teaching, indirect spread of extension teaching, extension campaigns, miscellaneous factors in extension teaching, training extension workers, and like matters. The book closes with a general review and an appendix of the various Federal extension laws, general memorandum of understanding, typical State extension laws, projects, and plans of work. The publishers of the book are J. Wiley & Sons, New York City.

Extension Service Review

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NOVEMBER, 1930

Measuring Up

The time for the check-up on the year's progress is close at hand. How faithfully have we carried out the program or programs planned a year ago? How definite are the results we have obtained? These are questions we must answer. To answer them, we find, is easier when we have not one year's progress behind us but the accumulated progress of several years toward a definite and measurable goal.

The Kansas Extension Service organized in 1925 a long-time wheat-belt program. Its specialists in agronomy, entomology, plant pathology, and marketing joined in formulating a unified program of objectives and service. It was so clearly outlined that every county extension agent concerned knew what to look for and on what to concentrate. Besides the Kansas State Agricultural College and its various departments, the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, the crop-improvement associations of the State, and the railroads and chambers of commerce interested in the territory were brought into consultation and given the opportunity of contributing to the execution of the program.

A teaching program was worked out that was followed consistently year after year. In January and February district wheat schools were held for local leaders where a thorough course of training was given by the specialists. These leaders, then, in turn, held local meetings for

wheat growers. In April grading schools were conducted by the specialists and in June field days were held on which demonstrations were visited and studied by growers. During July and August a special demonstration train was operated through the territory, which was visited this year by 105,000 people. A 1-day state-wide wheat festival gave the educational effort of the year a final dramatic touch.

Now, as to results. In southwestern Kansas, where the program has been carried on intensively for the full five years, 77 per cent of the wheat land was tilled before August 1 after removal of the crop. In the balance of the wheat-growing area 32 per cent of the land was tilled before August 1. In the five years the use of improved seed free from rye has increased from 200,000 to 500,000 bushels per year. Almost all the wheat in the area is now marketed on a quality basis, including dockage for smutty wheat. A recent report on the 1930 crop issued by the Southwestern Wheat Improvement Association shows that of the shipments received in Kansas City from southwestern Kansas only 1.9 per cent of the cars received graded smutty. Practically all farmers in the area now practice late seeding to escape the Hessian fly and by cultural methods are controlling damage from other insects harmful to the Kansas wheat crop.

It is definite, tangible results such as these that make extension's contribution to economic progress recognized. How many States, districts, or counties can look back to a program laid out five years ago, carried out faithfully as to the subject matter and teaching methods adopted, and with the results obtained as clearly measurable as are these of the Kansas Wheat Belt?

A Paying Investment

In this issue of the REVIEW Director Peck, of Minnesota, points out the opportunities for extension expansion in the field of economics. Particularly does he emphasize the opportunity not only for wider service but for more highly paid effort for the individual worker. It is true that to meet the requirements of new positions which are opening up in economic extension the worker must expend funds and time for necessary studies. It would appear, though, that the county extension agent who has proved helpful in meeting problems of marketing, farm management, and business operation and who enjoys this kind of work

can well afford to take the time to master whatever there is of scientific knowledge in these fields and make it a part of his professional equipment. Nor is this an opportunity exclusively for men. With the daily growing interest among farm women in sources of income and in meeting more successfully marketing requirements and standards, not a few home demonstration agents should find additional economic training the stepping-stone to more concrete success and increased remuneration. No one, surely, is better qualified to make successful practical application of economic facts than the man or woman with a background of experience as a county extension agent, who through intensive study acquires comprehensive understanding of such facts and their relation to the business of farming.

Questions and Answers

The REVIEW from time to time will publish a series of questions and answers. The questions come directly from the field and are points of discussion with our field workers. The answers will represent the best thought we can obtain from specialists in the work represented by the question.

Q. Does a cooperative county agent have the right to inclose in a letter a self-addressed penalty envelope or card to be returned to him free?

A. A self-addressed penalty envelope or card bearing the address of the authorized employee of the United States Department of Agriculture who furnishes it may be sent out to farmers and other persons from whom official information is desired, provided such information is to be strictly in furtherance of the work for which the employee received the Federal appointment.

Q. What do you consider a good outline to follow in making a State or assistant State club leader's plan of work?

A. First, state the problem, i. e., facts as to the condition, needs, and problems of the farm youth of your State; then for each major problem indicate the reasons for the existence of such a problem, your solution, teaching plan, and way of measuring results. A calendar of procedure is also essential. For example, in State X over 80 per cent of the boys lack adequate knowledge of clothing care. This is the problem. Now state your solution, method of procedure in remedying the situation, calendar of work, and way of measuring results.

Strengthening Economic Phases of County Extension Work

F. W. PECK, Director, Minnesota Extension Service

With the advent of the agricultural depression of farm prices which started in 1920, and continuing through the past decade of rapidly changing economic conditions in agriculture, there has naturally developed in most States a very definite emphasis upon economic programs and projects in the State extension services and in the United States Department of Agriculture.

For the past 25 years research studies have been developed in many of the economic fields, touching upon agriculture such as farm business analyses, cost of production studies, farm organization, research in the use of various forms of farm power, taxation, rural credit, marketing of farm products, and, in more recent years, very important and detailed studies of farm prices, their trends and cycles.

Compared with the results of research studies in biological lines, this body of information touching upon the economic aspects of agriculture is new. It has

not been applied to specific problems as much as other research material, and the personnel that has grown up rather rapidly in this field has not had the experience and training in the application in the economic facts to permit one to say that the highest type of success has yet been reached in the extension field of work.

That is to say, as we learn to use the results of economic studies in the practical field of farm operations the value of these results will become much more apparent to farm people and to extension workers than is true at the present time. This is a very natural result of a new field of work, the roots of which have had to be untangled from a large mass of theory and intangible facts and opinions. Economics is no exception to the rule that research results must build a content for teaching and extension application.

Hence, the first major problem that has been encountered in the attempt to strengthen this phase of extension work has been the difficulty of obtaining from research studies the type of economic information that farmers may use in their business and which can be successfully brought to them by extension workers.

STRESS THE NARRATIVE REPORT

Extension agents will be busy this month preparing their annual reports of results obtained in 1930. It is urged that they lay special stress on their narrative reports, giving as clearly and completely as possible specific accomplishments due to extension activity. To enable agents to give more time to the preparation of the narrative report, the statistical report form has been reduced from 32 to 24 pages and the number of questions from 386 to 268, as compared with the form for the previous year. Notwithstanding the reduction in the size of the statistical report provision has been made for the reporting of additional information under marketing. This appears necessary owing to the marked emphasis which has been placed on cooperative marketing by both the Extension Service and the Federal Farm Board. Provision has been made, also, for submitting data on child training and care and community activities.

For the most part reference to practices changed or adopted as a result of extension influence has been omitted from the pages relating to agricultural projects. It is felt that the omission of this information will be more than compensated for by the placing of emphasis by extension agents on the inclusion of stories of specific extension accomplishment in their narrative reports. We look to these stories to enable us to bring adequately to public attention from a National and State standpoint extension achievement and progress in 1930.

C. W. WARBURTON,
Director of Extension Work.

Another problem of importance encountered in the extension field has been one of methodology of presenting the economic facts in such a form and by such means as to result in successful teaching of farmers to the end that changes could be successfully made in the business side of their operations. Just as the field of economics tends to theory, so the results of many of the studies have been applied in a more or less theoretical form, which left the ultimate consumer of the extension product, namely, the farmer, in a very uncertain frame of mind as to how he could best use this type of extension information.

Probably one of the best examples of how improved methods of analyzing economic facts related to the farm business, and applying them successfully to changing farm practices, may be found in the experience of the farm-account work in

Illinois as developed by Professors Case, Mosher, and others. Another outstanding example of the application of enterprise-cost studies is that of the experience of the California Extension Service through the work of Professor Fluharty and his assistants. In both these instances, and others might be cited with

equal point, the interpretation of the material gathered is such as to make possible the adoption of very definite business changes by farmers. These types of application have resulted in a much more definite understanding of economic information than the more general discussion of economic problems of a more or less widely applicable nature. Just as the proof of the pudding is in the eating, so the test of extension effort in economics is in the understanding and consequent action of those receiving the extension training.

Another fundamental extension problem in this field is that of

reaching more people more effectively with economic teaching. By this I do not mean a wholesale general type of talking about economic problems, or the wholesale publication of more or less involved and dry economic facts. I mean, rather, the development of methods of training county agents, for example, to have a sense of economics, to keep them thoroughly posted on types of economic information, and possibly to develop methods of training leaders in communities who may reach still others with proper interpretations of economic material. This is one of the long-time objectives of developing methods in extension work that should receive particular attention in this rather difficult subject-matter field.

Finally, there is the problem of an adequately trained personnel in extension that can develop a sound, constructive,

growing program in economics with farm people. This personnel can not be trained in a day. It can not always be successfully recruited from the research staffs of institutions, for the research departments need the best trained personnel they can obtain to build a body of information that the extension services can use. One of the sources of a satisfactory personnel should be in the county agent staff itself, selecting those who have had some preliminary training, and who have more or less of a natural interest in pursuing this line of work as specialists, and following with the taking of advanced college training in farm management and other economic subjects. There is no more fruitful field of opportunity for county agents to advance in their profession than to pursue graduate work in economics with a view to becoming successful extension teachers. Likewise, there is no apparent better source of raw material out of which to mold interested and experienced men for this field of effort than those county agents who may be trained to understand the economic relationships involved in successfully planning and conducting a farm business and who can become skilled in the knowledge of how economic forces affect the many elements of the agricultural industry.

That purebred ram special trains must not stop operating in West Virginia was the verdict of more than 2,000 sheepmen who attended the 11 stops made by the 1930 ram special, and brought 199 purebred rams to head that many flocks in the State. So great was the interest in the train this year that officials in charge have promised to run another train next year if at all possible, even though it had been planned to make this year's train the last one. While the number of rams distributed by the train this year is not as large as the number distributed by some of the trains in the past, it is considered good in view of the drought and general economic conditions prevailing throughout the State.

Desiring a program on achievement day which would give an hour for a good old-fashioned chat, the leaders of the nutrition projects in Nebraska included buffet luncheons, afternoon teas, games, and other amusements in the program. In Kimball County a buffet luncheon was given as a demonstration to prove to the clubs that a large number of people could be served without confusion and without overworking any individual.

Use of Home-Economics Facts

Brown County, S. Dak., has served successfully during the past year as a demonstration in the practical use of home-economics facts as a basis for the crop-production program of a county. The demonstration began by holding the first farm and home-economics conference ever held in South Dakota.

The Brown County conference has brought about one of the most extensive and effective campaigns for the introduction of pure and certified seed and the elimination of smut that the State has ever witnessed. About a month after the conference had been held members of the two grain committees which had functioned during the conference, namely, cash crops and feed crops, sponsored a meeting attended by 35 farmers from all over the county at which the Brown County crop-improvement committee was appointed and the following program of work decided upon.

1. Standardize the principal varieties of wheat.
2. Control smut. Ask elevators to discount against smutty grain by paying a premium for clean grain.
3. Test seed for purity.
4. Ship in certified seed.
5. Influence farmers to cooperate in growing certified seed.

Wheat was selected for major emphasis in the county program for this year, since five million of the eight million dollars gross agricultural income of the county comes from wheat.

On December 17 the local crop improvement committee met and discussed ways and means to carry out the program. The first thing done was to call together a representative group of elevator men in the county and direct their attention to the fact that 41 per cent of the 1928 wheat crop in Brown County graded smutty, as revealed by a survey conducted in cooperation with the Northwest Crop Improvement Association. The elevator men agreed to pay a premium for clean grain starting with the 1930 crop and to hang signs up in prominent places in their elevators calling farmers' attention to that fact, and urging them to treat for smut.

County Meetings

During January, 12 meetings were held in the county, with a total attendance of 883 farmers. These meetings were arranged and conducted by the crop improvement committee with W. E. Dittmer, the county agent; C. R. Billings, field man for the Northwest Crop Improvement Association, or Evan Hall, ag-

ricultural agent for the Milwaukee Terminal Railway Co., featured as speakers on the programs. Community leaders were called into four district conferences, where the county pure seed and smut-control program was laid before them in order that they might carry it back to their respective communities.

In the meantime the county agent was busy lining up sources of pure certified seed. Smut-control posters were distributed during the month and a circular letter on treating seed for smut was sent to all farmers in the county. A pure-seed poster was also prepared and distributed. During February and March nine pure-seed and smut-control meetings were held by the crop-improvement committee in cooperation with the county agent, a total of 892 people attending. A pure seed contest with \$100 in cash prizes was started. Meetings were held with the agricultural committee of the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce in order to acquaint business men, especially druggists, machinery men, and others, with the important program being undertaken.

To date 10,393 bushels of pure and certified seed have been sown by 350 farmer cooperators. This is principally wheat and flax. In addition, 5,100 pounds of certified Grimm alfalfa were sown. One hundred and fifty bushels of Canadian certified Mindum wheat were brought in and distributed to 13 farmers. Next year, Mr. Dittmer estimates, enough Mindum seed will be available from these plots to sow 3,000 acres.

Variety Test Plots

Six wheat-variety test plots were planted in order to determine which were the best hard-spring and durum varieties for Brown County. These plots are representative of the different soil types and climatic conditions in the county. Two plots were also planted to oats varieties and two to barley.

To date no check has been obtained on the amount of seed treated by farmers for smut, but the results will be evident when the crop is harvested and marketed this fall.

On May 27 and 28, the county crop improvement committee staged the first elevator managers' crop improvement school ever held in South Dakota. On the program appeared representatives of the United States Department of Agriculture in Federal grain supervision and investigations work, men from the State agricultural colleges of North and South Dakota and Montana, and officials of the

Northwest and South Dakota crop improvement associations.

Some of the most interesting features of the program were the demonstrations on grain grading, separation of wheat classes, grading of damaged and smutty wheat, and grading of entire wheat samples as carried out by the different elevator managers.

R. E. Johnston, agronomist of the South Dakota Extension Service, has devoted much of his time to assisting the Brown County crop improvement committee to plan and carry out its program.

Forest Planting

Capitalists who have planted forests with the expectation that their grandchildren will reap the timber harvest from these woods are outdistanced in plans for the future by the children in 14 Michigan school districts who, under the direction of the extension division in Michigan have made their first plantings on school forests in each of the districts.

All these forests are in the upper peninsula and contain from 40 to 160 acres. Five acres of white pine and white spruce interplanted were set on each of the forests during the first two weeks in May. Dedicatory services participated in by the United States Forest Service, the Forestry Division of the State of Michigan, the Extension Service of the Michigan State College of Agriculture, the Forestry Department of the University of Michigan, and civic bodies of the upper peninsula have been held at each location.

White pine and white spruce were selected as the species for planting because both are native to the region; white pine furnishes a valuable lumber, and white spruce can be used for both Christmas trees and pulpwood. The first harvest from these forests will be ready in 10 years, when the Christmas trees will be ready for cutting. The best of the spruce will be left for pulpwood and lumber.

Seedlings were used to make the plantings and these were placed by furrow or spot planting, depending upon the ground conditions. The plantings were made by the school children under the direction of R. F. Kroodsmas, extension forester.

Sites for the forests were deeded or leased to the school boards by owners of large tracts of cut-over lands. The Ford Motor Co., The Cleveland Cliffs Iron Mining Co., and the Newberry Charcoal Iron Co. are some of the companies which assisted the children by donating tracts for planting.

Fire lines are maintained around the plantings, and a seed bed has been start-

ed at each forest to furnish future seedlings. The seedlings used this year were given to the districts by the Michigan State College of Agriculture. Reproduction from the seedlings already planted should start in 15 years. Proper supervision and care in cutting will perpetuate the work begun by the school children.

Previous plantings made by the Michigan State College of Agriculture prove that in 30 years a green mantle will hide the scars left by over-enthusiastic lumber operators on the sites of the school forests. The white pines will reach diameters of 16 inches and the 60-foot trees will contain approximately 20,000 board feet per acre. The contrast between the forests and the idle land adjoining them will be an object lesson for everyone who passes.

Farm Homes Made Beautiful

Unusual arrangement and color in flower gardens have been shown by 404 homes in Maryland this year, due to the combined efforts of 15 home demonstration agents and Professor Ballard, specialist in landscape gardening.

The first year a study of annuals was taken up in four discussions dealing with the proper arrangement of the garden in relation to the home, suggested ways to group annuals in beds to gain color effect, and types that can be successfully grown. A second lesson gave help on questions of soil conditions for good growth and bloom; the third dealt with cultivation; and the last with control of pests.

Mr. Ballard met the home demonstration agents in groups and gave them instruction in presenting the work and dealing with problems that might be brought up.

Each agent then met with two women from each club or organization in her county and presented the work of the group. These two women, known as project demonstrators, agreed to carry on in their own home yards the suggestions given in the lessons.

The second year's lessons, which will deal with the growing of perennials and biennials, will be given to the same project demonstrators. The last year's work will be on selection, planting, and care of shrubbery. Each agent has developed original illustrative material that has helped make the lessons a success. Several commercial firms have become interested and have cooperated by supplying material for the agents and demonstrators.

Maricopa County 4-H Club Fair

At the annual Maricopa County 4-H club fair held at Tempe, Ariz., boys and girls from 13 farm-bureau districts vied with each other for honors. The Tempe 4-H club members acted as hosts to the clubs of the county and actually put on the fair. Club members elected from among their number superintendents of all departments, who handled their jobs very efficiently.



Dick Calhoun and Katherine Mann, winners of Maricopa County health contest

Local firms donated \$290 for prize money to be awarded for the best exhibits in home economics, health, calf, pig, poultry, rabbit, and garden club work.

The afternoon of the first day of the fair was devoted to official judging of all the classes exhibited by the club members. Competition was very keen, some high-class stock being shown.

In the demonstration team contests, Cartwright won the health section, with two girls, Marie Rousseau and Mary Dilley, in a snappy play, "Starting the Day Right." The crops and livestock contest of 13 teams was won by a Chandler team coached by one of the last year's champions, Raymond Gilliland. This team consisted of Donald Davis and Karl Skousen, demonstrating the testing of skim milk and the adjustment of a cream separator. This is an example of one of the possible means of participation by 4-H club members after they become ineligible for competition in contests.

Economic Conferences in Montana

In 1926 a careful study of the basic facts about Montana's agriculture was completed and early the following year a series of six well-planned district economic conferences was held in areas having generally the same physical conditions. The analysis of the basic facts and the conclusions reached by more than 1,200 representative leaders in these conferences formed the basis for the State's agricultural program.

From a state-wide standpoint these conferences have resulted in:

1. The creation of an agricultural program accepted not only by farm people, but by bankers, railroad people, chambers of commerce, and all agencies interested in the agricultural development of our State.

2. The whole-hearted recognition of the extension service as the leader of this program and an accepted willingness to cooperate.

3. The establishment of a new line of thought directed toward the determination and organization of those profitable types of farms or ranches that can withstand the competition of areas producing similar commodities.

As a result of the economic conferences extension methods have been modified in the following respects:

1. The fundamental importance of the survey as a basis for projects is now fully accepted.

2. The interest in economics has greatly increased. A comparison between time devoted by agents to economics in 1926 and in 1929 shows an average increase of 92 per cent.

3. The group conference providing for considerable discussion, directed by members of the extension staff, is now regarded as a much more effective means of fact convincing than the lecture type of extension meeting.

4. A better correlation between the various program phases has been developed. Specialists and agents are keeping in mind to a greater extent just how each particular piece of work affects and fits into the general extension program.

Effectiveness of Conference

The measure of the effectiveness of an economic conference in a given area is neither the attendance nor the character of the printed program developed but rather the length of time that the program continues to be a vital factor in the sound development of the area. Bearing this in mind the Montana Extension

Service has devised various follow-up activities, often changing the method of attack, but constantly hammering away on the fundamental recommendations of the economic conferences. Each year the extension programs have been based primarily upon the agricultural program developed in area conferences. That this has paid big dividends can best be illustrated by a few specific recommendations quoted from the State program bulletin published early in 1927 and by statements of accomplishment.

"On dry-land wheat farms, cost of production should be lowered by driving more horses per team, by using tractors, by low cost summer fallow, and by using combines on acreages that will utilize the equipment to the practical maximum." (An agricultural program for Montana.)

Team and tractor hitch, and tillage field demonstrations in all wheat counties; low-cost wheat meetings; low-cost wheat special trains, low-cost wheat farm studies, publicity, and other effective means have been used to keep Montana ahead of the general movement for greater production per man. In one county the best 2,200 farmers could produce prior to 1925 was 1,500,000 bushels of wheat; in 1928, 1,400 farmers in the same county grew 4,500,000 bushels. In another county in the spring of 1930, 1,800 out of 1,900 wheat farmers used tractors and combines.

"In many sections of the State considerable rough grassland is mixed in with wheat lands. In these sections livestock combinations should be developed in preference to straight wheat. As the number of livestock is dependent upon the amount of feed produced under variable conditions, a year's supply of feed in reserve is considered the necessary margin for safety." (An agricultural program for Montana.)

Results of a Campaign

In response to a campaign in an extension project, the acreage of sweet clover was increased from 2,000 in 1926 to 16,000 in 1929 in Richland County. In Rosebud County in 1929 there were nearly 40,000 acres of corn formerly devoted to wheat. In order to create feed reserves and at the same time provide a good cash crop for stockmen, the alfalfa seed acreage in southeast Montana has been greatly increased. This increase has been sound because of the high quality, low-cost production, and the fact that it is a 2-way needed supplemental enterprise to stock raising. In Prairie County in 1926 there was less than 500 acres of alfalfa; this year there are applications for the regis-

tration of 4,980 acres, and the 1931 goal of 7,000 acres will be exceeded. In Phillips County more than 5,000 acres have been added to highly productive alfalfa and sweetclover through flood irrigation projects laid out by the county agent, thus making possible a better balance with the surplus grass.

"Inasmuch as the size of the ranch unit has materially decreased and much of the livestock of the State is produced in small lots, cooperative livestock shipping associations are recommended as a means of reducing marketing costs."

State and District Programs

The State and district agricultural programs developed at economic conferences, with rather general recommendations due to the large area included, have at least served as basic material for the State extension programs each year and as guide posts for the county and smaller area conferences, where more specific recommendations could be made. Such conferences have been held in 16 counties and on 5 irrigation projects. Program-building conferences are being held this year in five additional counties. Whether or not they will be held in all counties depends entirely upon the mental complex of the extension agents. Not all agents, when exposed to this new line of economic thought, become sufficiently inoculated to become enthusiastic about this system of program building. If the agent can not be completely sold the plan stands little chance of success.

A comparison between counties that have held program building conferences and those that have not is beginning to show a rather decided contrast. Where the lands have been classified according to physical characteristics and economic uses, where the successful types of farms best adapted to each area have been determined, where the conditions under which such farms must be operated to meet competition are being worked out, where these basic facts have been given careful consideration by the extension service and the agricultural leaders of the area, and definite recommendations incorporated into a long-time agricultural program, the extension work has greater stability and is more completely recognized as a vital force in the sound development of the area.

When canning chicken, the birds should be killed about six hours or more before being put into the containers. This allows all animal heat to be expelled and improves the quality.

News Clinics

County-agent news clinics are a recent development in Oregon extension circles with five such clinics held in various parts of the State during the past 10 months.

The clinic takes the outward appearance of district county-agent conferences with from 5 to 10 agents gathering at a central point for a 1-day meeting. The main difference is that news and publicity methods take up the entire program. The unusual feature is the two to three hours devoted to a critical analysis of the stories of each agent before the entire group.

The program for the day usually opens with a discussion of "What is news in the extension program," handled by F. L. Ballard, county agent leader, or W. L. Teutch, assistant county agent leader. Both of these men are trained news men, Mr. Ballard having extensive experience in writing for the farm press and Mr. Teutch having experience as editor of a weekly paper. Then follows a discussion on how to write news, led by Prof. C. D. Byrne, head of the industrial journalism department and a former extension worker. Both of these subjects are covered by discussions, not lectures, in which the agents take an active part. The forenoon is devoted entirely to these discussions, which sometimes continue at the noon luncheon.

The afternoon is given over to the clinic. Every agent sends in to the central office copies of the stories he has written in the past few weeks. They are turned over to Professor Byrne, who goes over them critically making notations either good or bad. In some cases the lead is rewritten, paragraphing corrected, or words are deleted, and the like. Each agent's contribution is then analyzed before the entire group so that all get the benefit of the criticisms.

Girls Start 4-H Club in Africa

It is a far cry from New York to the center of Africa, yet two former New York 4-H club girls have started a club there, which from all accounts may out rival many American clubs in the development of all for which the 4-H's stand.

These two girls are daughters of a missionary now stationed in the African Congo. They were formerly members of a 4-H club in New Berlin, Chenango County, N. Y., under the leadership of Mrs. Laura Angell.

Because club work meant so much to them here they decided to organize a

club in their new home. As an indication that they have not forgotten the health "H," they wrote that they selected a leader who drinks neither tea nor coffee, and spoke of one of their recreational activities as consisting of a picnic in the woods.

Apparently they are also remembering the heart "H," for they also wrote of planting flowers on the graves of native babies who died during the year and who were known by members of the club.

Better Plays Result of Tournament

More fun for rural folks and better plays have been the two main objects of the one-act play tournament, which the New Hampshire Extension Service



A character part in prize-winning play

has conducted for the past two years, and judging by the interest shown at the State finals during farmers' and home makers' week each year the project has succeeded, says J. C. Kendall, director of New Hampshire Extension Service.

About 70 communities entered the contest last year, when both adults and juniors competed, and nearly as many more this year, when the lists were limited to adults. Every county in the State has been represented. Groups winning in each county were asked to come to the university for the State finals; and each evening at the State contest the audience filled the hall to overflowing. The plays have proved more popular than any other evening en-

tertainment we have ever had at farmers' and home makers' week.

Contesting groups were limited in their selections to a list of recommended one-act plays. Counties were asked to have at least four entries before running county contests; and competing casts were warned that they must be prepared to continue, if successful, throughout the tournament. Places, judges, and financial arrangements were decided for intercommunity contests by local committees in consultation with the county director.

One of the county extension agents assumed responsibility in each county for handling details, and the State contest was in charge of a committee of State workers, headed by Henry Bailey Stevens, executive secretary of the Extension Service.

State prizes of \$50, \$25, and \$15 were awarded to the three winning groups. These were won the first year by productions of "Uncle Jimmy," "The Boor," and "Neighbors," and the second year by "The Workhouse Ward," "A March Wind," and "The Valiant."

Many of the performances were of a very finished type, and set up standards of acting which are bound to influence for the better the dramatic work of our rural towns. The judges used a score card which called for 60 per cent for acting, 25 per cent for team play, and 15 per cent for stagecraft.

Following the State finals a conference on rural dramatics was held, and special assistance to coaches has been possible through the cooperation of Jack Knapp, of the Playground and Recreation Association of America.

One of the interesting results of the tournament has been the awakening of the groups to other plays than the rural New England type, which in the past has been almost universally in vogue. Two Russian plays by Tchekoff, for instance "The Boor" and "A Marriage Proposal," held the audience breathless. They roared over the fun of the Irish play, "The Workhouse Ward"; followed keenly "The Bishop's Candlesticks," taken from Victor Hugo; and were moved to wet eyes by the superb tragedy of "The Valiant."

The play tournament has been one of our minor projects but has seemed decidedly worth while. It has proved that our rural sections can provide entertainment of a high type for themselves.

Four hundred and twenty-nine 4-H club boys are feeding baby beeves in South Dakota this year.

Mississippi 4-H Club State Executive Committee

The third annual session of the Mississippi State 4-H executive committee was held in connection with the State 4-H Club Congress at the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College, August 4-9, 1930, says James E. Tanner, State boys' club agent in Mississippi.

work and on the following morning the committees in charge of these two phases made their reports and submitted recommendations to the group for approval.

Former Mississippi delegates to the National 4-H Club Camp take part in the deliberations of the State 4-H executive



4-H club State executive committee

The unit of club organization in Mississippi is the community club, which is composed of all 4-H club members in the community. The executive committee of each community club selects a member boy and girl, usually its president and secretary, as representatives to the county 4-H executive committee, and each county executive committee selects a member boy and girl, usually its president and secretary, as representatives to the State 4-H executive committee. Forty-three county 4-H executive committees were represented at the State meeting this year.

As soon as the group convened officers were elected for the week and committees appointed on the following phases of 4-H club work: Qualifications of State club officers; county club rallies; county club camps; community and county achievement days; community and county tours; community 4-H club certificates; plan of work for the State 4-H executive committee; out-of-State trips; nominations committee for State officers; and program for the State 4-H executive committee at the 1931 State 4-H club congress. Each morning the entire group discussed two of these phases of club

committee, thereby giving the benefit of their experiences at the National Club Camp to all of the committee members. This arrangement provides for a diffusion throughout the State of the contacts that the delegates get at the National Club Camps.

After the general discussion meetings the boys and girls met separately to hear 30-minute vocational talks which were given by experts in the different lines of work. Talks for the boys were given on qualifications of a county agent; opportunities in banking and business; cooperative organizations; training for vocational teaching; the field of chemistry; and the field of electrical engineering. Talks for the girls were given on training for home demonstration work, training for home economics teaching, training for nursing, and the profession of home making.

4-H Club Desks

Every 4-H club boy or girl can make a desk unit for use in the home with very little trouble or expense. It is very desirable that every club member should

have a desk of his own, kept preferably in his own room, where he can keep his 4-H club literature, books, and records. The furniture necessary to make up such a unit need not be purchased in most cases, as the boy or girl will take greater pride in refinishing some old piece of furniture to meet his needs.

The girl's desk may be made from a discarded washstand. The lower drawers of the stand should be cut out to give leg room and then the stand sandpapered and painted. Desk pad and blotter are made to harmonize with the color selected. On the small table beside the girl's desk may be placed bulletin files and a sewing box made attractive by covering it with glazed chintz.

Every club girl should be urged to provide some sort of desk for her room, as its use encourages a habit of keeping papers, books, records, and other valuable private property in connection with club work and other interests. Desks are being made by many club girls this year, and some old desks are being remodeled and repainted. It is an opportunity for originality. Many suggestions may be found in current magazines. Any girl can make the accessories needed from old boxes, cardboard, paper, and paste which are easily available.

The boy's desk is made by bracing the legs of a broken-down sewing table so that it will stand upright. Sandpaper and paint make it look presentable. The bookcase and file are made to set on top of the table, giving the appearance of a desk. A peach basket, after it is painted, will not look out of place as a wastepaper basket. A boy always has some possessions that he prizes. Such articles, as well as books, bulletins, records of his 4-H club work will be kept in better condition if he has a desk unit of his own, and what is of even greater importance, these things can be found when wanted.

Turkey Grading Proves Popular

One of the most popular services of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in the grading of farm products is the grading of dressed turkeys. This service was first undertaken in 1927, when turkeys were graded for one chain store in Washington for the Christmas market. The following year turkeys were graded at 8 eastern terminal markets both for the Thanksgiving and Christmas markets. In 1929 the service was extended to shipping points in the Pacific Northwest through cooperation with the State departments of agriculture in Colorado,

Utah, Nevada, California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Wyoming. A total of approximately 8,000,000 pounds of turkeys or nearly 1,000,000 turkeys were graded in 1929.

Already requests have been received for the grading of turkeys in Texas in 1930, and arrangements are being made with the extension service of the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College for the conduct of a turkey grading school at San Angelo which will be held the week of October 20. Following the school it is expected that turkeys will be graded at many shipping points through cooperation of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics with the Texas State Department of Agriculture. Inquiries have also been received for the grading of turkeys in several of the mid-Western States.

Those desiring more complete information regarding the turkey grading work of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics should write to the division of dairy and poultry products of that bureau for it.

Reforestation Work

Boys and girls are taking a major part in reforestation work in New Hampshire, and this season 1,300 members of 4-H forestry clubs planted approximately 400,000 white pine seedlings, according to a check up just made by K. E. Barraclough, extension forester. These are included in 584 different plantings.

Particularly outstanding work by a single club has been done in Warren, Grafton County. Since 1927 the Moosilaukees Yankees 4-H Forestry Club has planted 20,000 trees on a 20-acre tract which the town was not using. The boys set out 6,000 of the seedlings this year and found many of the earlier ones already over 3 feet high.

Extension Forester Barraclough characterizes their work as a practical and lasting memorial to the town.

Volunteer Women Reporters

"We are very proud of our volunteer women reporters in Missouri," says Essie M. Heyle, State home demonstration agent. "Three hundred and forty-seven of them reported a total of 2,227 news articles that were printed in newspapers. This means that at least half of the club meetings of 347 clubs were reported. Missouri is going to get a fine impression of the interests, activities, and good times of farm women as a result of this record. Often I hear such statements as 'What a lot of fine work farm women are doing

Tennessee 4-H Club Travels



Madison County club members on their trip

T. R. Wingo, assistant county agricultural agent of Madison County, Tenn., reports that the Harts Bridge boys and girls 4-H club in his county has made an annual educational trip for the last four years. Their first trip was made to Reelfoot Lake in northwestern Tennessee, the second to Memphis, the third to the Muscle Shoals plant in Alabama, and the fourth to the capital of Tennessee, Nashville.

The members work together as a club during the year to secure the funds for

taking these trips. Ice cream suppers and barbecues have been the most remunerative for this group.

This year 35 leaders and members made the 4-day trip in a Ford truck. They took their bedding and food for the entire time with them and camped on the Tennessee State fair grounds at Nashville. During their visiting in the capital, Oscar Ferris, the local county agricultural agent, was their guide.

to-day,' or 'I wish I could live in the country and share some of the good times and advantages these women seem to have.' Let's continue to educate Missourians regarding the progressiveness of farm women."

Many of the articles written by home-maker's club reporters are splendid ones. Mrs. M. West, of Bismarck, is so anxious to write even better articles that she has enrolled for an extension course on publicity in an eastern college. She also is taking some home-economics extension courses so that she can be a better home maker and project leader.

Child Health Conference

A number of States cooperated with the White House conference on child health and protection in its study of the availability of medical care for children and the medical attention which is given to children under 5 years of age in the

rural districts. The county extension agents in these States, after personal interviews in representative rural homes, filled out questionnaires and returned them to Doctor Van Ingen, chairman of the committee on medical care, thereby centralizing a wealth of first-hand data on the preventative measures actually used for the preschool rural child. Further information about the White House conference will be given in a later issue.

The most satisfactory way to purchase seed is by samples. Secure a guaranteed representative sample together with purity and germination tests, and then place an order for seed like the sample.

There was an attendance of 4,824 people at the twelfth annual farmers' week held at the University of Arkansas this year. There were 986 boys and 827 girls in attendance at the club camp held at the same time.



Window Display Advertising

Window-display advertising has been found to be an effective means for spreading extension ideas by W. K. Tipton, Mabel Moore, and J. C. Powell, county extension agents in Greene County, Tenn. Every two or three weeks they arrange a new exhibit or display in their office show window, which faces one of the principal streets in Greeneville, the county seat. These displays present the extension ideas in a novel and attractive way and come to the attention of the numerous pedestrians.

Annual Outlook Conference Broadens Scope

The annual agricultural outlook conference for 1931 will be held in Washington, D. C., at the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, January 26 to 31, and the report will be released on February 2. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics is organized to gather and analyze the world-wide and nation-wide information on over 50 crops, classes of livestock, and livestock products. The bureau has set up over 40 working committees, including a total of over 100 technically trained men to prepare for the conference. These committees are not only representatives of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics but of other bureaus of the Department of Agriculture, Federal Farm Board, and the Extension Service. Special efforts will be made this year to have preliminary drafts of the reports completed in advance of the general conference, supplemented by collections of data, charts, and the like which will make it possible to cover them more thoroughly in the general conference.

The annual conference is regarded as the place to discuss international and na-

tional aspects of the supply and demand of each commodity, leaving the interpretation of the reports to correspond with regional conditions for the regional conferences. Methods of conducting outlook extension work will also be left largely to other extension workers' conferences, so as to leave more time for discussions of economic conditions. The national conference in Washington is not expected to duplicate or in any way be replaced by the regional conferences. The opportunity for discussion of national and international policies will be much greater than in any of the regional meetings.

The closer contacts with representatives of the Federal Farm Board will also be beneficial.

The Yearbook of the United States Department of Agriculture contains many items of interest to home demonstration agents on such subjects as farm incomes, labeling food packages, fruits and vegetables, and canning.

Films in Farm Campaign

The Cuban Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Labor has purchased copies of 16 of the department's films to be used in a farm campaign in Cuba. According to Assistant Commercial Attaché Albert F. Nufer, Habana, Cuba, the films depicting modern methods of agriculture will be shown throughout the rural districts as part of the Cuban Government's campaign to educate the Cuban farmer toward crop diversification and to acquaint him with the proper manner of soil tillage, planting, and reaping the harvest of such products as can be raised in Cuba.

Explanatory captions of the films have been translated into Spanish in a way to make them interesting and intelligible to the average Cuban farmer, and, in addition, an employee of the Cuban Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Labor will explain them for the benefit of those unable to read. Projection equipment will be mounted on a truck, which will be equipped with a 2-horsepower electric plant, so that the films can be shown in districts where electric current is not available.

The films purchased for showing in Cuba include the following subjects: Milk in the diet and producing quality milk; poultry raising and how to make poultry pay, including how to select a laying hen; plant and animal insect control; hog raising, hog management, and marketing; and methods of tick eradication.

Cuba is one of a number of foreign governments that has purchased films of the United States Department of Agriculture to use in farm campaigns. Other foreign governments that have been recent purchasers of the department's films include Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Haiti, Colombia, Nicaragua, Uruguay, Dominion of Canada, Holland, Turkey, Belgium, Lithuania, Japan, Germany, the Soviet Union, New South Wales, and the Government of South Africa.

Although a neighbor advised that the field be abandoned as worthless, William L. Wade, a Clinton County farmer living near Greenville, Ill., reclaimed 10 acres of his farm by terracing it at a cost of less than \$25, according to a report of E. G. Johnson, farm mechanics extension specialist of the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois. Erosion and gullying, which had ruined the field, are the most serious problems on many Illinois farms, there being about five and a half million acres of land in the State subject to them.

HOW TO STAGE GOOD EXTENSION PICTURES

New Series Available



This photograph is a good example of a poorly staged group. It presents no extension message and is decidedly lacking in story interest.

The picture on the right is a successful extension photograph. It embodies one idea, includes only essentials grouped to emphasize the center of interest, portrays the principal characters in a natural setting and suggests action. The result is a picture rich in story interest.



TO CONTRAST good and poor types of pictures a new series of illustrations has been designed to clarify the various factors involved in taking good extension photographs. The series was used successfully at recent extension conferences in Texas and Colorado. W. H. Darrow, extension editor in Texas, stated, "I want to recommend the series to other extension editors. We ran the slides in our automatic projector which operated day and night and I believe they drew a larger crowd than did any other event on the campus."

The series is available for loan by extension workers either as 8 by 10 photographic prints, as 22 by 28 bromide enlargements, or in the form of glass lantern slides. Requests should specify which is desired.



Leadership in bringing the farmers together and in manning their organization is the greatest need of agriculture. For agriculture, as for every other industry, leadership will always be the greatest need.

—ARTHUR M. HYDE,
Secretary of Agriculture.

